

Course Summary

Opening Statement:

Congratulations! You have just completed the tunnel and mill sites validity course.

Re-state Course Goal/Objectives:

The goal of this course was for you to be able to **make initial validity determinations at mill sites and tunnel sites**. In order to achieve that goal, we had 4 primary course objectives that we wanted you to achieve through performance practice exercises so that you could actually say “I reached that goal”. Hopefully, with the information Pete provided and the exercises you were asked to complete throughout the course, you can now do that! Those objectives were for you to be able to...

- 1) **identify the characteristics of the tunnel or mill site,**
- 2) **reference the applicable laws and regulations,**
- 3) **determine what non-mineral and use or occupancy for mining or milling purposes are present for a mill site only and**
- 4) **report your findings to management.**

Review/Summary of Material Presented:

In order to get you to that course goal and objectives, Pete first talked about tunnel sites. Here are a few points to remember.

- A tunnel site allows the owner to file lode claims for blind deposits they discover underground.
- A tunnel site location must be posted at the face of the tunnel, and along the line of the tunnel on the surface.
- The location date of the lode claim is retroactive to the location date of the tunnel site, which can sometimes become very important.
- The locator loses the rights to the blind deposits if work on the tunnel is abandoned for six months or more.

Then Pete discussed mill sites. Here are a few important points to remember:

- Mill sites must be located on land that is non-mineral in character.
- Mill sites may be dependent or independent.
- Mill sites must be located on land that is open to mineral entry.
- Mill sites may not be used for unjustified residential occupancy.
- All mill sites are subject to the rules at 43 CFR 3715 and 3809.**

Now that we've reviewed some of the information from both modules, let me briefly mention how important this is for the job you do for the United States government.

We are all stewards of the public lands. Knowing what can and can't be done with a tunnel site or a mill site will help you with that stewardship. The work you do today, when you document it well, may help a successor employee 25 or 50 years in the future, someone you'll never meet, do a better job. It can happen. It happened to me, when the work documented by a General Land Office employee in 1895 helped me with a case in 1984.

Confirming the validity of tunnel and mill sites is important to the Bureau because... **The Mineral Policy Acts of 1970 and 1980 tell us that part of our jobs to foster and encourage the responsible and legitimate mining uses of the public land as a part of our multiple use mission. That does not mean that we should tolerate undue and unnecessary degradation, nor should we tolerate misuses of the public land. In the Landmark Supreme Court case of Cameron versus the United States in 1920, we were reminded that we must ensure that valid claims may be recognized, invalid ones eliminated, and the rights of the public preserved**

Now that you know how important this training is let's review how you may obtain credit for this course.

How can I obtain credit for this course?

To obtain credit for this course you'll need to take the post test through DOI Learn and achieve a passing score of 80%.

The post-test is comprised of a case study type scenario. The scenario has multiple resources for you to access and review if you so choose. You will find all of these resources after this conclusion attached to the topic button entitled "post test resources". There you will find the test scenario, pictures, attachments, and statutory guidance to help you answer the post test questions. Please read the scenario and review all of the resources before taking the post test. There's a total of 20 multiple-choice test items in the test. In order to receive credit for this course, you will need to answer 16 of the 20 questions correctly. Once you have passed the posttest, don't forget to print out your certificate for your personal records.

As mentioned before, before taking this course (or post test) you should know how to evaluate acreage from legal land descriptions (LLDs), how to transcribe LLD's onto a map and how to measure acreage off a map. If you do not, then you should take the Legal Land Descriptions Course **2000-01 DL or 2000-01 SS** (self-study course). Both are available through DOI Learn.

Closing statement:

I hope you have enjoyed this course and will use the information contained therein to accomplish your daily job requirements. However, should you need some refresher training or just-in-time information to accomplish your job, consider the information, files, links, and exercises contained in this course to be a resource. Everything contained in this course is available to you at any time on the Knowledge Resource Center (KRC).

The KRC is the Training Center's version of an online library. All you have to do is go to following website <http://www.ntc.blm.gov/krc/> , type Tunnel and Mill Sites into the search engine, then select Course 3800-15 to access all the content from this course. With that said, have a great day.